

processing (TAP) procedure. HUD will completely reprocess all stages of the transaction; or

(ii) Immediately transfer the project to a new MAP lender. The new MAP lender must completely reprocess all stages of the transaction. At no time can the new MAP lender assign the pre-application, the firm application, the mortgage insurance commitment, or the insured construction loan back to the original MAP lender.

(4) HUD will not endorse any MAP loan processed by the terminated lender unless a firm commitment was issued before the date of termination.

(i) Firm commitments involving new construction or substantial rehabilitation must be immediately transferred to a new MAP lender. At no time can the new MAP lender assign the firm mortgage insurance commitment, or the insured construction loan, back to the original MAP lender.

(ii) Firm commitments issued for Section 223(f) projects may be transferred before final endorsement to any approved FHA lender or kept in the lender's portfolio.

(iii) For those construction loans that have been initially endorsed, the MAP lender will lose its MAP privileges for construction loan administration. HUD will assume all the construction loan administration duties it normally performs for TAP processing.

(iv) The original lender may service a transferred loan once it is finally endorsed.

(5) Termination is nationwide in effect.

(6) When a MAP lender loses its MAP lender status as a result of termination, the lender's status to process transactions using TAP is unaffected, provided that the lender has maintained its status as an FHA-approved multifamily lender.

(d) *Reinstatement.* An application for reinstatement of MAP authority may not be made until at least 12 months after the date of termination. The requirements for reinstatement shall be the same as for initial qualification, and the applicant must show that the problems that led to termination have been resolved.

**§ 200.1525 Settlement agreements.**

(a) HUD staff, as authorized, may negotiate a settlement agreement with a MAP lender before or after the issuance of a warning letter or referral to the MAP Lender Review Board. Once a matter has been referred to the MAP Lender Review Board, only the Board may approve a settlement agreement.

(b) Settlement agreements may provide for:

(1) Cessation of any violation;

(2) Correction or mitigation of the effects of any violation;

(3) Removal of lender staff from positions involving origination, underwriting, and/or construction loan administration;

(4) Actions to collect sums of money wrongfully or incorrectly paid by the MAP lender to a third party;

(5) Implementation or revision of a quality control plan or other corrective measure acceptable to HUD; and

(6) Modification of the duration or provisions of any administrative sanction deemed to be appropriate by HUD.

(c) A MAP lender's compliance with a settlement agreement is evidenced by the lender certifying its compliance with the conditions of the agreement, and HUD's determination that the lender is in compliance with the conditions of the agreement.

(d) Failure by a MAP lender to comply with a settlement agreement may result in a probation, or suspension, or termination of MAP privileges, or referral to the Mortgagee Review Board.

**§ 200.1530 Bases for sanctioning a MAP lender.**

It is HUD policy that approved MAP lenders are expected to comply at all times with HUD's underwriting and construction loan administration requirements and not to take any action that presents a risk to HUD's insurance funds. A MAP lender's improper underwriting and construction loan administration activities may lead to a warning letter or other sanction from HUD. Examples of such activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) *Minor offenses that may be the basis for a warning letter include:*

(1) Failure to provide required exhibits or the submission of incomplete or inaccurate exhibits. Although the MAP

lender will be permitted to correct minor errors or provide additional information, substantial inaccuracies or lack of significant information will result in a return of the application and retention of any fee collected;

(2) Repeated failure to complete processing to firm commitment unrelated to an underwriting analysis that demonstrates that the process should not proceed to firm commitment;

(3) Preparation of an underwriting summary that is not supported by the appropriate documentation and analysis;

(4) Failure to notify the HUD processing office promptly of changes in the mortgage loan application for a firm commitment submitted, such as changes in rents, numbers of units, or gross project area;

(5) Failure to meet MAP closing requirements or construction loan administration requirements;

(6) Business practices that do not conform to those generally accepted by prudent lenders or that show irresponsibility; and

(7) Failure to cooperate with a Lender Qualifications and Monitoring Division review by HUD.

(b) *Serious offenses that might be a basis for a warning letter or probation, suspension, or termination include:*

(1) Receipt of multiple warning letters over any one-year period. In determining which sanction to pursue as a result of prior warning letters, HUD will consider the facts and circumstances surrounding those warning letters and the corrective actions, if any, undertaken by the lender;

(2) Fraud or material misrepresentation in the lender's participation in FHA multifamily programs;

(3) Lender collusion with, or influence upon, third party contractors to modify reports affecting the contractor's independent evaluation;

(4) A violation of MAP procedures by a third party contractor, which the MAP lender knew, or should have known, was occurring and which, if performed by the MAP lender itself, would constitute a ground for a sanction under this chapter;

(5) Evidence that a lender's inadequate or inaccurate underwriting was a cause for assignment of an FHA-insured mortgage and claim for insurance benefits to HUD;

sure mortgage and claim for insurance benefits to HUD;

(6) Identity-of-interest violations as defined by Chapter 2 of the MAP Guide;

(7) Payment by, or receipt of a payment by, a MAP lender of any kick-back or other consideration, directly or indirectly, which would affect the lender's independent evaluation, or represent a conflict of interest, in connection with any FHA-insured mortgage transaction;

(8) Failure to comply with any agreement, certification, undertaking, or condition of approval listed in a MAP lender's application for approval;

(9) Noncompliance with any requirement or directive of the MAP Lender Review Board;

(10) Violation of the requirements of any contract with HUD, or violation of the requirements in any statute or regulation;

(11) Submission of false information, or a false certification, to HUD in connection with any MAP mortgage transaction;

(12) Failure of a MAP lender to respond in a timely manner to inquiries from the MAP Lender Review Board in accordance with this subpart;

(13) Indictment or conviction of a MAP lender or any of its officers, directors, principals, or employees for an offense that reflects on the responsibility, integrity, or ability of the lender to participate in the MAP initiative;

(14) Employing or retaining an officer, partner, director, or principal at the time when the person was suspended, debarred, ineligible, or subject to an LDP under 2 CFR part 2424, or otherwise prohibited from participation in HUD programs, when the MAP lender knew or should have known of the prohibition;

(15) Employing or retaining an employee who is not an officer, partner, director, or principal, and who is or will be working on HUD-FHA program matters, at a time when that person was suspended, debarred, ineligible, or subject to an LDP under 2 CFR part 2424, or otherwise prohibited from participation in HUD programs, when the MAP lender knew or should have known of the prohibition;

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(16) Failure to cooperate with an audit or investigation by the HUD Office of Inspector General or an inquiry by HUD into the conduct of the MAP lender's FHA-insured loans; and

(17) Failure to fund MAP mortgage loans or any misuse of mortgage loan proceeds.

[70 FR 43242, July 26, 2005, as amended at 72 FR 73494, Dec. 27, 2007]

### § 200.1535 MAP Lender Review Board.

(a) *Authority*—(1) *Sanctions*. The MAP Lender Review Board (or Board) is authorized to impose appropriate sanctions on a MAP lender after:

(i) Conducting an impartial review of all information and documentation submitted to the Board; and

(ii) Making factual determinations that there has been a violation of MAP requirements.

(2) *Settlement agreements*. The Board is authorized to approve settlement agreements in accordance with § 200.1525 of any matter pending before the Board.

(3) *Extensions*. The Board is authorized to extend, on its own initiative or for good cause at the written request of a MAP lender, any time limit otherwise applicable under this section. Notice of any such extension shall be timely provided to a MAP lender.

(b) *Notice of violation*. Before the Board reviews a matter for consideration of a sanction, the Board's Chairman will issue written notice of violation to the MAP lender's contact person as listed on the Multifamily MAP Web site. The notice is sent by overnight delivery and must be signed for by an employee of the MAP lender upon receipt. The notice:

(1) Informs the lender that the Board is considering a specific violation;

(2) States the specific facts alleged concerning the violation, with citation to the HUD requirements that have been violated;

(3) Includes as attachments copies of all documents evidencing the violation and upon which the Board will rely in reaching a decision;

(4) Provides the lender with the opportunity to request in writing, within 15 business days after the date of the issuance of the notice, to:

(i) Meet for an informal conference with the Board in person or by video conference using HUD facilities at Headquarters or one of HUD's field offices; and

(ii) Present written evidence and any other relevant information at the conference;

(5) Requires a written response to be submitted to the Board by a date specified within the notice;

(6) Provides the street address, email address, or facsimile (FAX) number for purposes of receiving the lender's request for an informal conference and written response; and

(7) Is made part of the administrative record of the Board's decision of the matter.

(c) *Response to notice*. (1) The MAP lender's written response required by the notice of violation may not exceed 15 double-spaced typewritten pages and must include an executive summary, a statement of the facts, an argument, and a conclusion. The response and supporting documentation must be submitted in triplicate.

(2) Failure to respond by the dates specified within the notice may result in a determination by the Board without conducting an informal conference with the MAP lender and without consideration of any written response submitted by the MAP lender.

(d) *Informal conference*. (1) The Board will schedule an informal conference and notify the lender of the time and place of the conference, if one is requested.

(2) At the conference, the Board will meet with the lender or its designees and HUD staff to review documentary evidence and presentations by both sides.

(3) Oral statements made at the informal meeting will not be considered as part of the administrative record of the Board's determination, except:

(i) The Board may note for the record and consider voluntary admissions, made by the lender or a representative of the lender, of any element of the violation charged;

(ii) Statements substantiated by any additional documents or evidence submitted in accordance with paragraphs (e)(1) or (e)(3) of this section; and